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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Harald Schmidt et al. )  
Application No. 09/762,767 )  
Filed: June 1, 2001 ) Group Art Unit: 1652  
For: ISOLATED AND PURIFIED HUMAN )  
SOLUBLE GUANYLYLCYCLASE )  
α1/β1 (hsGC α1/β1) )  
Examiner: Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D. ) Attorney Docket No. VOS-101

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER RULE 116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The paper is in response to the final Office Action dated March 31, 2004 on the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

A declaration under Rule 132 and a certified copy of an English translation of the German language priority application are submitted herewith. Also submitted herewith are a petition for a one-month extension of time to reply to the Office Action and a check in the amount of \$110 to cover the fee for the extension of time.

*Amendment After Final  
O.K. to enter  
mail  
8/31/04*